DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 44 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

April 29, 1985



ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE I-33-85

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ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

ALL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

SUBJECT:

STATEWIDE WELFARE FRAUD HOTLINE

REFERENCE:

In accordance with Senate Bill (SB) 2171, the State Department of Social Services (SDSS), has established a 24-hour welfare fraud hotline for use by the public in reporting situations of welfare fraud. The toll free hotline number is 1-800-344-TIPS (8477), and will be in full operation by April 19, 1985. A media campaign has been developed to advertise the hotline through the use of posters, radio, and television.

The following outline provides a description of how the statewide hotline will operate, highlighting the specific responsibilities of county and state staff:

- I. SDSS Review/Referral Process
 - A. Staff from the SDSS, Fraud Program Management Section will be responsible for the following:
 - 1. Initial screening of the hotline tip to determine if there is probable cause to refer the allegation to the county special investigative unit (SIU).
 - 2. Preparing the referral document and forwarding it to the appropriate county.
- II. County Investigative Process

Upon receipt of a hotline referral from SDSS, the county SIU will be responsible for the following:

- (1) determining if the allegation has any factual basis; and
- (2) taking apropriate action, if fraud is indicated.

III. Reporting

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the fraud hotline, it is necessary to capture relevant statistical data. To do this, we have provided a tear-off section on the referral sheet Form DPA 403 (copy attached). Each referral should have action taken and a response sent to the SDSS, Fraud Program Management Section within 90 days of the referral.

We look forward to the counties' cooperation on this project. If you have any questions regarding the hotline, please contact Michael F. Back, Chief, Fraud Program Management Section at (916) 924-2836.

JOANNE ICHIMURA-HOFFMANN

Deputy Director

Management Systems and Evaluation Division

Attachment

cc: CWDA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICE

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FRAUD HOTLINE COORDINATOR 744 P STREET, M.S. 19-26 AGRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

NO BOY STIGATION CONDUCTED (Specify)